



Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety

Roy E. Barnes
Governor

Tim Burgess
Commissioner

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CHANGES TO TEEN DRIVING REQUIREMENTS **EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1**

The Department of Motor Vehicle Safety wants to remind parents of first-time drivers of the changes in the teen driving laws which are just a few week away from implementation.

As of January 1, 2002, anyone who applies for a permanent driver's license must have a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult sign a Verification Form affirming that the candidate has completed 40 hours of supervised driving experience – with six of those hours being at night. If the student has successfully completed an approved driver education course, they must have an additional 20 hours of supervised driving instruction – with six of those hours being at night. It is a felony offense to falsify this information.

The Parental Guide to New Teenage Driving Requirements, produced and distributed by the DMVS, explains the new teenage driving rules and regulations. It is an easy-to-read pamphlet that is available at all DMVS drivers' services locations or can be downloaded from the Department's website, www.dmv.ga.gov.

"In an effort to inform both the parents and the young drivers, we have circulated this informative brochure to state and local educators as well as law enforcement officials. We do not want a parent to feel compromised when they are asked to sign the Verification Form. They need to know for sure what type of behind-the-wheel training their child has had," said DMVS Commissioner Tim Burgess.

Senate Bill 1, the Teen Driving Safety Law was a bipartisan collaboration between Lieutenant Governor Mark Taylor and Senators Phil Gingrey (R-Cobb County) and Jack Hill (D-Tattnall County) specifically focused on reducing teen driving fatalities on the highways of Georgia. SB1 was approved by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Roy Barnes during the 2001 legislative session.

